GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:67
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2005
COMMUNITY FOOD AND NOURISHMENT COUNTERS
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of community food and nourishment extension units set-up under Accelerated Development Programme for SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has also been formulated by the Government to increase the number of beneficiaries under the programme;

(d) if1 so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the number of SC/GT beneficiaries under the schemes during 20023-04 was inadequate; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the action plan formulated by Government to increase the number of beneficiaries under these schemes in future alongwith funds proposed to be spend thereunder?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH):

(a) and (b) The Government had set up 43 Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units in the country in a phased manner between 1964 to 1989 after which there has been no expansion. Although all these units organize nutrition education and training programmes particularly for adolescent girls and women in backward rural and tribal areas and urban slums, covering about 50 per cent SC/ST beneficiaries, the units at Bhopal, Ranchi, Udaipur and Vishakhapatnam organize 25 per cent of their training programmes exclusively for SC/ST adolescent girls /housewives with a provision for stipend of Rs. 100/- per trainee.

(c) and (d) the nutrition programmes organised by the CFNEUs have been reoriented from time to time to meet the challenge of expanding the coverage of beneficiaries under these programmes. The units are organizing various nutrition education and training programmes, mass awareness campaigns on malnutrition, and setting nutrition exhibitions for the benefit of masses, including persons from SC/ST Community in rural, tribal and urban slums.

(e) No, Sir. The Department had doubled the targets for Fruit & Vegetable Preservation Training Programmes by the units and also revived processing faciiity for Fruits & Vegetable for community during the year 2003-04 and as such the coverage of SC/ST beneficiaries was not inadequate.

(f) The Department has been allocating additional funds for such programmes since the last two years. The Revised Estimates under Plan for 2003-04 were Rs. 197 lakhs and in 2004-05 were Rs. 270 lakhs. The Budget Estimates for 2005-06 is Rs. 559 lakhs.